Dr. William S. Rees, Jr.
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense
(Laboratories and Basic Sciences)

The Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Laboratories and Basic Sciences, DUSD(LABS), is responsible for providing scientific leadership, management oversight, policy guidance and coordination of the more than $1.3 billion annual Basic Research (6.1) programs of the Military Services and Defense Agencies. In this capacity, Dr. Rees has cognizance over the entire Defense Basic Research portfolio. In addition, he is responsible for DoD Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and workforce issues, grants policy, Defense Laboratories policy, and international S&T programs.

In June 2006, Dr. Rees was appointed DUSD(LABS) in the Office of the Director, Defense Research and Engineering. Prior to joining the DoD, Dr. Rees was a Program Manager (2003-2006) for the CBRNE Countermeasures and the Critical Infrastructure Protection portfolios at the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency, in the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate.

Dr. Rees holds seven patents, has over 120 publications in archival journals, has edited one book, and has delivered invited lectures at more than 20 international meetings, over 75 universities, and over 200 other locations. Dr. Rees has been Chair of the Gordon Research Conference on Chemistry of Electronic Materials (1999); Member, Defense Science Study Group (1998–2000); Member, Defense Science Board Task Force on "Roles and Missions in Homeland Security" (2003); Member, National Research Council (NRC) Scientific Review Panel on "EPA Homeland Research" (2003); Member, NRC Chemical Sciences Roundtable (2003–Present), and external Ph.D. examiner in India and Finland. His honors include Fellow, American Institute of Chemists (1998); Fellow, Royal Society of Chemistry (1998); Outstanding Faculty Leadership Award for the Development of Graduate Research Students (Georgia Tech, 1998); and Outstanding Interdisciplinary Activity Award (Georgia Tech, 1997). He has supervised 23 undergraduate research students, 19 graduate research students and 20 postdoctoral fellows.

Dr. Rees received his American Chemical Society Certified B.S. degree from Texas Tech University (TTU) in 1980. After tenures at the Palais Kinsky (Vienna, Austria) and Cosden Oil and Chemical Company (Big Spring, Texas), he entered graduate studies at TTU. He received his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry in 1986 from UCLA. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at MIT, he accepted a joint appointment in the Department of Chemistry and the Materials Research and Technology Center at The Florida State University, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1993. He joined the Georgia Institute of Technology in January 1994, with a joint appointment between the Schools of Chemistry and Biochemistry and of Materials Science and Engineering. Dr. Rees was named, in February 1995, the first Director of the Molecular Design Institute, funded by the Office of Naval Research and the Georgia Research Alliance; in 1995, he was promoted to Full Professor. During 1998 – 1999 he was an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow at the Technische Universität, Berlin. He is a member of Sigma Xi and Phi Eta Sigma honorary societies, and his research interests are in electronic materials.

Dr. Rees serves on the international Advisory Boards of six professional journals, including as a founding board member for *Advanced Materials*, the most cited journal in the profession. He also serves on the Senior Advisory Group for the Military Critical Technologies Program. He was a consultant to the Institute for Defense Analyses (1998 – 2006), as well as to other confidential organizations.